

REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

May 29, 2007

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair, Clouette, Duffy, Hawkins. Koehn, Paterson, Paulhus, Schaefer

Absent: Haddad (Legislature in session)

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2007 special meeting. Motion passed with Ms. Blair abstaining. Mr. Hawkins moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2007 meeting as presented. Motion passed by all.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Paterson requested a moment of silence in honor of and respect for our troops around the world.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Betty Wassmundt, 54 Old Turnpike Road, questioned whether the wording of the proposed AT&T Excelerator Technology Grant motion authorized the application for the grant or the purchase of the registration system. She also questioned who owns *MySeniorCenter* and the stability of the company. Ms. Wassmundt also noted that many of the Seniors she has spoken to do not like the idea of a registration system

Mr. Hawkins moved to move Items 6, 7, and 8 to the top of the agenda. Seconded by Mr. Paulhus the motion passed unanimously.

See below

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Issues Regarding the UConn Landfill

Mathew Hart, Town Manager, in response to a question from Mr. Schaefer explained that the interceptor trenches would not solve the problem of the leachate but serve as part of the collection process.

2. Community/Campus Relations

The Town Manager will invite the new Director of Off Campus Services to meet with the Town Council.

3. Community Water and Wastewater Issues

Lon Hultgren, Director of Public Works, and Greg Padick, Director of Planning, updated the Council on the last meeting of the Committee. A rewrite of the report is being prepared for the June 1, 2007 deadline. The revised report will include the Willimantic Level A water study. Additionally included in the 2007-2008 UConn budget is money for an inflow study and money for a study and startup expenses regarding the use of effluent for cooling and other purposes. This information will be part of the report. Included in the Committee's discussions were the comments of the Mansfield Conservation Committee regarding aquifer protection and UConn owned land. The revised report will state UConn's support of the Fenton River Withdrawal Limitation Study. It was also noted that UConn water for the Downtown Project has been committed, but that water for the Four Corners area has not been included.

4. Financial Statements Dated March 31, 2007

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Clouette seconded effective May 29, 2007, to accept the Financial Statements Dated March 31, 2007, as prepared by town staff and endorsed by the Finance Committee.

Motion passed unanimously.

5. Application to AT&T Excelerator Technology Grant Program

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Clouette seconded, retroactive to April 23, 2007, to authorize staff to submit an application in the amount of \$10,000 to the AT&T Excelerator Grant Program, in order to obtain funding to purchase the MySeniorCenter technology program.

A motion to authorize this grant was previously approved by the Council but was thought to be overly broad and so is again before the Council. Kevin Grunwald, Director of Social Services, commented that the grant is funded by AT&T's philanthropic organization and has no connection to the vendor representing *MySeniorCenter*. The product has been on the market since 2005 and would be thoroughly vetted before purchasing.

John Brubacher, President of the Mansfield Senior Center Association and Jan Scottron, Vice President of the Mansfield Senior Center Association shared their recollections of the events regarding the approval process within the Executive Committee. It was agreed that the Council and the Committee would meet at a future date to be determined.

Mr. Schaefer moved to amend the wording of the motion to read, "...in order to obtain funding to purchase hardware and software to affect operational efficiencies. Seconded by Mr. Clouette the motion passed.

The amended motion passed with Ms. Koehn abstaining.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

6. Proclamation in Recognition of Emergency Services and Public Safety Personnel

Mr. Clouette moved and Ms. Koehn seconded, effective March 29, 2007, to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached Proclamation In Recognition of Emergency Services and Public

Safety Personnel.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Paterson read the attached Proclamation in honor of the emergency services and public safety personnel of the Town of Mansfield for all their work and efforts during this year's Spring Weekend at UConn. The Mayor expressed the gratitude of the Town to the members of the Mansfield Fire Department, the Mansfield Resident Trooper's Office, the Office of Emergency Management and the Fire Marshal's Office.

7. Proclamation in Honor of Burnham Thompson, Sr.

Mr. Hawkins moved and Ms. Blair seconded, effective May 29, 2007, to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached proclamation in honor of Burnham W. Thompson, Sr., in recognition of his 50 years of dedicated service to the Town of Mansfield.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Paterson and the Town Council presented a proclamation of gratitude from the Town of Mansfield to Burnham W. Thompson, Sr. for 50 years of service to the Town of Mansfield (attached).

8. Proclamation in Honor of George M Thompson, Jr.

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded, effective May 29, 2007, to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached proclamation in honor of George M. Thompson, Sr., in recognition of his 50 years of dedicated service to the Town of Mansfield.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Paterson and the Town Council presented a proclamation of gratitude from the Town of Mansfield to George M. Thompson, Jr. for 50 years of active service to the Town of Mansfield (attached).

Fire Chief David Dagon presented both men with the Connecticut State Fire Fighters 50 year award.

District Chief Jordan presented a proclamation to Burnham and George Thompson on behalf of the Mansfield Fire Fighters. The Chief thanked Heidi Hodgkins for initiating this event. He noted that the quiet unassuming giving nature of the Burnhams in all aspects of their lives is the sign of a true volunteer and a quality of great human beings.

9. Proposed October 1, 2007 Refuse Fee Increases

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Koehn seconded to schedule a public hearing for 8:00 P.M. at the Town Council's regular meeting on June 11, 2007, to solicit public comment regarding the October 1, 2007 proposed refuse fee increases.

Motion passed unanimously.

10. Agricultural Land South of Pleasant Valley Road

Gregory Padick, Director of Planning, updated the Council on the status of the land south of Pleasant Valley Road. The Planning and Zoning Commission has yet to rule on the Special Design District they proposed for that area but in the discussion the Town purchase of some of the land was recommended. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends to the Town Council that this idea be explored on the staff level and with the Open Space Committee. Mr. Padick delineated the areas under consideration for purchase, adding that much of the entire area is prime farmland but that this area also has access to water and sewer, which would make it appropriate for multi-family housing.

11. Update: Residential Development in Mansfield

The Director of Planning presented the most recent information on the number of housing units, subdivision lots, building lots that exist in Town.

Ms. Blair left the meeting at 9:35 P.M.

12. Fiscal Year 2007/2008 Mill Rate

By consensus the Council decided to not address this issue at this meeting.

13. School Building Committee-Architectural/Engineering Study for School Modification Project

Ms. Koehn moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded to approve the following resolutions:

Resolved, effective May 29, 2007, to authorize pursuant to Section C407 of the Town Charter the issuance of bonds not to exceed \$150,000 to conduct the Architectural/Engineering Study for School Modifications Project to Mansfield Public Schools and to amend the Capital Fund Budget by establishing an appropriation for a like amount.

Resolved, effective May 29, 2007, to authorize pursuant to Section C407 of the Town Charter a Town Meeting for 7:30 P.M. at the Town Council's regular meeting on June 25, 2007, to seek authorization to issue bonds not to exceed \$150,000 to conduct the Architectural/Engineering Study for School Modifications Project to Mansfield Public Schools.

Motion passed unanimously.

VII. QUARTERLY REPORTS

VIII. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

IX. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

X. REPORTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Paterson reported that the Mansfield Middle School was named the Connecticut Middle School of the Year.

Mr. Paulhus attended the League of Women Voters dinner, as did the Mayor.

Members noted that the Memorial Day Parade was the right mix of solemnity and celebration and that both Councilor Paulhus and Mayor Paterson did a good job.

XI. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Attached

The Friends of the Library Book Sale is this weekend

Council members will be polled for available times to have a special meeting to set the mill rate.

A tentative agreement has been negotiated with the Fire Fighters. The vote will be tomorrow night.

XII. FUTURE AGENDAS

Mayor Paterson suggested that the Middle School be invited to the June 25th meeting to celebrate their award.

Ms. Koehn requested that the meeting with the Housing Authority be held in a location other than Council Chambers.

XIII. PETITIONS, REQUEST AND COMMUNICATIONS

14. J. Brubacher re: Senior Center Volunteers

15. CBIA and MetroHartford Alliance, " Sustainability & Connecticut's Economy

16. CCM Legislative Update, " Monster Mandate: Still Bad Public Policy"

17. R. Hudd re: University Spring Weekend

18. L. Hultgren, 2007 Road Surfacing Program

19. N. Moynihan re: Proposed Driveway Alterations at 112 Dog Lane

20. The Chronicle, May 22, 2007, " Mansfield PZC Ends Hearing on Center Plan"

21. The Hartford Courant, May 22, 2007 "Design Center Hearing Ends"

22. The Hartford Courant, May 22, 2007, "UConn Has Sufficient Water, Study Says

23. UConn Students Living On-campus at Storrs, 1985-2007

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Clouette seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk